New York Today: Winter Weather, Signs of Spring; New York Today

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Highlight: Friday: Hints of spring in snow, weekend events, and Saturday night in your neighborhood.

Body

Updated, 8:46 a.m.

Good morning on this frosted Friday.

Snow has returned to the city: It may affect your morning commute, with most of the flakes falling before noon.

A winter weather advisory is in effect until 2 p.m., and around four inches could greet our feet by the time we start the weekend.

“We didn’t have a February, so I guess we’re having a February now,” said Jay Engle, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service.

You’ll need to bundle up for the foreseeable future — temperatures are expected to remain in the teens and 20s throughout the weekend — and more snow may be on the way by Tuesday of next week.

As you’re shivering over this dayslong cold spell, keep in mind that spring is also upon us. A few signs to prove it:

Dairy: Before asparagus and strawberries hit our farmers’ markets, there’s an earlier predictor of spring: fresh goat’s cheese and sheep’s milk.

Upstate, goats are birthing kids and sheep are having lambs at a quick pace, said Liz Carollo, the publicity manager for GrowNYC’s Greenmarket program. We called Mary Carpenter, the owner of Violet Hill Farm in West Winfield, N.Y., to confirm. It was difficult to hear her over the cries of the newborn lamb she was bottle-feeding. “Not only sheep, but my heritage hens are laying eggs and I just had five or six litters of piglets,” she said.

Wildlife: Spring peepers, or small chorus frogs, are croaking; hawks are beginning their aerial courtship displays; and male deer on Staten Island are losing their antlers, exposing the pedicles, which look like a bloody hole in their skulls, said Sarah Aucoin, chief of education and wildlife for the city’s parks department. “It can look kind of freaky,” Ms. Aucoin said of the pedicles, “but that’s a definite sign of spring.”

Music: If you set your seasonal watch to the Delacorte Clock in Central Park, then we suspect you’re already humming tunes from their spring playlist (“Singin’ in the Rain,” “Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin’,” “What the World Needs Now is Love”), which began playing this month.

Sunlight: We’re getting 11 hours and 42 minutes of daylight. On Sunday, the sun will go to bed even later, at 7 p.m., thanks to Daylight Saving Time.

So while your teeth are chattering this weekend, set your mind (and clocks) forward to spring.

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Here's what else is happening:

In the News

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo has a $1.4 billion plan for central Brooklyn, where obesity, murder and unemployment rates exceed the city and state averages. [New York Times]

A former police officer's suicide has led to new clues about a drug conspiracy and four murders. [New York Times]

Housing programs that assist some of the city's poorest residents are grappling with a decrease in federal funding. [New York Times]

Budgeting 101: The Independent Budget Office offers 90 ways for the city to either save money or collect more. [New York Times]

Two people are dead — and more are sick — following a listeria outbreak that has been traced to cheese from New York. [Gothamist]

Kindergarten acceptances have been sent, and the number of New York City children on the waitlists has dropped. [DNAinfo]

What's going on at the city's nuclear fallout shelters? [Gothamist]

Today's Metropolitan Diary: "Bar Mitzvah in the Blizzard of '69"

Scoreboard: Hurricanes sweep Rangers, 4-3. Avalanche topples Devils, 3-2. Islanders can Canucks, 4-3 (in overtime).

For a global look at what's happening, see Your Friday Briefing.

Coming Up Today

A climate action conference at the N.Y.U. Skirball Center for the Performing Arts in Greenwich Village. 8 a.m. [$5]

Poetry, music and storytelling from female artists, and inspired by the Bronx, at the Bronx Museum. 6:30 p.m. [Free]

Learn how to two-step and waltz, then dance to zydeco music, at Flushing Town Hall in Queens. 7 p.m. [$16]

Trevor Noah, the host of "The Daily Show," discusses his new book, "Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood" at the New York Public Library's Stephen A. Schwarzman Building in Midtown. 7 p.m. [$50, copy of the book included]

A performance of the musical "Amélie" at the Walter Kerr Theatre in Midtown. 8 p.m. [Tickets start at $59.50]

Nets at Mavericks, 9 p.m. (YES).

The Weekend

Saturday

Watch hundreds of cyclists compete in the Grant's Tomb Criterium bike race, beginning at 478 Riverside Drive on the Upper West Side. 8 a.m. [Free]

Cosplay contests and conversations with comic book artists at Big Apple Con in Midtown. 10 a.m. [Tickets start at $30]

Learn techniques for building a fire and explore the outdoors at Alley Pond Park Adventure Center in Queens. 1 p.m. [Free]

Build your own terrarium at Wave Hill in the Bronx. 2 p.m. [$50]

Learn Tai Chi at the Jacques Marchais Museum of Tibetan Art on Staten Island. 3:30 p.m. [$12]

Enjoy an evening of chamber music at the Church in the Gardens in Forest Hills, Queens. 7:30 p.m. [$20]

New York Red Bulls host Colorado Rapids, 4 p.m. (MLS LIVE). Knicks at Pistons, 5 p.m. (MSG). Islanders at Blues, 8 p.m. (MSG+). Devils at Coyotes, 8 p.m. (MSG).

Watch “The New York Times Close Up,” featuring Public Editor Liz Spayd and other guests. Saturday at 2 and 10 p.m. on NY1.

Sunday

Toss colored powder and take in the floats and music at the Phagwah Parade, which celebrates the Hindu Holi festival, beginning at 33rd Street and Liberty Avenue in Richmond Hill, Queens. Noon. [Free]

Explore statues of women, and by women, on a tour beginning at Central Park. 1 p.m. [Free, register here]

Learn how to start a summer vegetable patch, at the Queens Botanical Garden. 1 p.m. [$10]

Children can search for signs of deer and play survival games at the Greenbelt Nature Center on Staten Island. 2 p.m. [Free]

Celebrate the Jewish holiday Purim with magic performances and music at Veretzky Hall in Midwood, Brooklyn. 3 p.m. [$12]

New York City F.C. hosts D.C. United, 2 p.m. (YES). Knicks at Nets, 6 p.m. (MSG). Rangers at Red Wings, 7 p.m. (NBCS).

For more events, see The New York Times’s Arts & Entertainment guide.

Commute

Subway and PATH

Railroads: L.I.R.R., Metro-North, N.J. Transit, Amtrak

Roads: Check traffic map or radio report on the 1s or the 8s.

Alternate-side parking: suspended for snow removal.

Ferries: Staten Island Ferry, New York Waterway, East River Ferry

Airports: La Guardia, J.F.K., Newark

Weekend travel hassles: Check subway disruptions and a list of street closings.

And Finally...

There are many New Yorks, and many Saturday nights, and not all of them unfold in the same old places.

The Times’s Corey Kilgannon has written about Saturday night in Bayside, Queens, where a strip of bars along Bell Boulevard — the Bell — keeps hopping well past midnight. The article is the first in an occasional series that we’re calling “Saturday Night In …” and we need your help.

Where do you go on a Saturday night?

We are looking for those corners of New York where locals converge. It could be a club, bar, bench, basketball court, a house, on a block or a cluster of streets. If you hit the meatpacking district, a SoHo lounge or a Midtown hotel rooftop, good for you, but we won't write about it. We're looking for those under-the-radar places where regulars go and "the city" seems a world away. Tell us in the form below. We could feature your favorite spot in our "Saturday Night In …" series.

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